



MINUTE

A MINUTE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING @ NMS

"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."

VOLUME: 1 / ISSUE: 28

DATE: 3-22-24

HEADLINES

WEEK AT A GLANCE

ANNIE JR.

THERAPY DOG

NEURODIVERSITY

KINDNESS CORNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brianna Yee



"Identify your problems but give your power and energy to solutions."

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Week at a glance

- **Course Selection** -- As we prepare for next year, we are asking parent(s)/guardian(s) to review the course selection form we emailed on Friday (3/15). Please click on the [NMS Program of Studies](#) for additional information on the courses offered or further details about the middle school.
- When you have completed the form, please click submit. Course selection forms were due on **March 22nd**.
- **Clothing Drive** (Cradles to Crayons) -- Brianna Yee, this year's Project 351 ambassador, will be leading a clothing drive for Cradles To Crayons to help kids 0-12 with clothing insecurity. The drive will be from March 18th to the 28th. On MLK weekend, Brianna went to Boston with 350 other representatives across the state to engage in a day of service to help and support families in need. Brianna said, "The day brought everyone joy!" "People needed help, and we were helping, making a difference in their lives." Brianna worked with Cradles to Crayons. Please help Brianna continue on her path to support families in need, by bringing in clothing, starting on March 18th.
- **National Geo/History Bee** -- NMS students took a qualifying online assessment on Thursday, March 7th, for the National Geo and/or History Bee with Mr. Gray. The following students qualified for the Regional Competition on April 7th:
 - 6th: Angelina Hutchison, Devan Parmar, Theodore Griffin, Eli Eliodor, Ava Finn
 - 7th: Ruoyuan Li, Leo Bretsch
 - 8th: Thomas Donovan, Jack Rohrbach
 - **Congratulations to our students!!**
- **Term Ends** -- Term III ends on Thursday, March 28th. Report cards will be posted on Apen for parents on Friday, April 5th.



Annie -- Leapin' Lizards! It's almost time to step back in time to 1933, where a Little Orphan named Annie reminds us all that no matter what "the sun will come out, Tomorrow". Join Annie, the "rotten orphans", Daddy Warbucks, Grace, Miss Hannigan, Rooster, Lily and the rest of the Spotlighters, Cast and Crew, for a fun filled time with Annie Jr. Performances are at Norwell High School, Friday, April 5th @ 7pm and Saturday, April 6th @ 2pm and 7pm. Tickets go on sale at the NMS main office on Monday, April 1 and are \$10 each, cash or check made out to Norwell Middle School. No phone orders, tickets must be purchased in person and all ticket sales are final.



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Therapy Dog (Teddy)

Sgt. Dooley traveled to the Norwell schools on Friday with his friendly K9, Teddy. Multiple students stopped to see Teddy and were met with friendly affection.



CALENDAR



Neurodiversity Week 2024

This week we are celebrating everyone's super powers! We all have something that sets us apart. Some people are very creative, some can memorize numbers easily...and some people view what makes them different as a strength, while others fear that it's a weakness. This week is all about identifying our differences and recognizing the strengths in our differences. Thank you to Elizabeth Schaeffer, our School Psychologist, for ensuring we celebrate our neurodivergent learners this week!

March

28 Quarter 3 Ends

28 All-Norwell Band Concert @ 7PM

29 No School

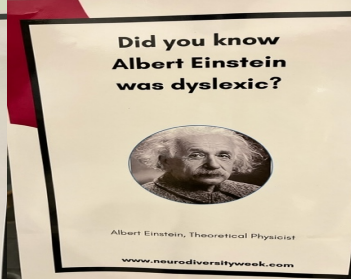
April

1 School Committee @ 7PM

5 Report Cards Posted to Aspen

5 Annie Jr. @ 7PM

6 Annie Jr. @ 2PM + 7PM



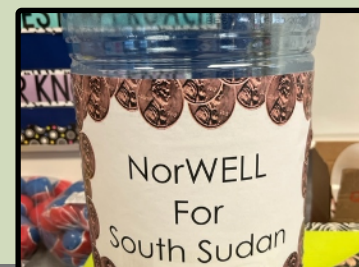
KINDNESS CORNER

"We make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give." - Winston Churchill

[Grade 7 for South Sudan](#)

The Navigators are reading the book, A Long Walk to Water, by Linda Sue Park. One of the interdisciplinary activities they came up with was to collect enough pennies to walk one mile, which is 85,000 pennies. The money raised will be given to the fundraiser at the High School "NorWELL for South Sudan". All of the funds raised go towards the funding of wells in South Sudan.

Thank you Navigators for running this & let's see how far our Pennies take us! Anyone can donate!



PTO

Meeting 4/26 @ 9AM at NMS

Superintendent will attend the meeting to review the school budget for 2024-2025.

Chess

Open Chess in room 208. Free for all students, every Thursday throughout the school year.

Please see Mr. Fraser if you have any questions.

Clothing Drive

Spring clothing drive for Cradles to Crayons!



The Giving Factory

Collection dates: March 18 - March 28

Collection locations: Norwell Public Library and Norwell Middle School

We are collecting clothes for kids ages newborn - 12 in gently used or new condition

This clothing drive will benefit children in Massachusetts experiencing clothing insecurity

If you have any questions please email:
briana.yee@students.norwellschools.org

This clothing drive for Cradles to Crayons is in partnership with Project351



Please spread the word to family and friends



Reminders

Absence Reporting

- Please report student absences to the office as soon as possible.
- You can report absences by
 - calling the absence line: 781-659-8814 x1206 and leaving a message.
 - sending an email to the Main Office at nms.mainoffice@norwellschools.org.

Dismissing a Student during the School Day

- Please send a note to the office the morning of the dismissal.
- If there is not a note, parent/guardian will need to enter the building to sign their student out.
- Please provide a written note if somebody other than a parent/guardian is picking up a student during the day for dismissal.

Forgotten Items

- When bringing in a forgotten item for a student, please leave it with a label on the "I Forgot It" table by the front lobby.
- It is a student's responsibility to check the table for the forgotten item.
- If a student does not call home for the item, please do not bring the item to school as they likely do not need it.

Cell Phones

- Students' cell phones should be off and in their locker or bag during the day.
- Parents / guardians should not text or call their students' cell phone during the school day as it disrupts the class. Messages can be left at the office for students.



We are excited to tell you about a school-wide Reading Challenge starting Term 3. For terms 3 and 4, we are encouraging your students to read **more!**

To help them on their way, we are devoting Friday Flextime to independent reading. **They** choose the books or magazines that they want to read.

And we could use your help!

According to [research](#), “effective programs include active parent involvement, partnerships among community institutions, and collaboration among significant adults in students’ lives.” Your help and support at home is a crucial factor in supporting reading development. So how can you help?

1. PUT BOOKS IN THEIR HANDS

Get books, magazines, and graphic novels that match your student’s interests. Head to the library. Hit a bookstore. Buy Lacrosse or Fortnite magazines—*whatever they’ll read!*

2. ENCOURAGE READING IN FLEX TIME

According to the research, reading is positively correlated with [a strong vocabulary](#), [higher math scores](#), [higher science and history scores](#), [strong writing skills](#), [higher scores on standardized tests](#), [reduced levels of stress](#), [increased empathy](#), [more brain connectivity](#), and [even a longer life!](#) Please encourage your student to read during Flex Friday.

3. KEEP IT GOING AT HOME

We know life is busy! We get it! But where could you encourage more reading? Before bed? Before screen time? On a long car ride? Read the same book as your child and watch the movie after finishing the book? Gift a grandparent the same book and do a child-grandparent book-club date? Think creatively to get students engaged with reading more at home!

4. DONATE BOOKS

If you have upper elementary school and/or middle school books and magazines that you are no longer using, we’ll take them! Drop donations in the READING PROGRAM BOX at drop off; we will shelf them around the school for students to use during Flex Friday!



HAVE USED OR UNWANTED MARKERS, PENS WOODEN OR MECHANICAL PENCILS?

Last year the Norwell Recycling and Sustainability Committee successfully initiated a project to recycle crayons and continues to collect used or unwanted crayons. We are now adding markers, pens and wooden and mechanical pencils to our collections for recycling. We are working in partnership with Staples, which has recently added them to their list of materials that can be recycled.

Collection boxes are located at-

Grace Farrar Cole School

William G. Vinal School

Norwell Middle School

Norwell High School

New Nursery School

First Parish PreSchool

Ridge Hill School

Nature Center PreSchool at the South Shore Science Center

Bright Horizons

Norwell Public Library

Norwell Recycling Center

Chess

Open Chess in room 208. Free for all students, every Thursday throughout the school year.

Please see Mr. Fraser if you have any questions.





Basic Rights: Evaluation and Eligibility

A Free Virtual Workshop for Parents and Professionals

Basic Rights: Evaluation and Eligibility provides an introduction of the complex special education laws and procedures.

Workshop Topics:

- *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Massachusetts Laws*
- *Evaluations and Referrals*
- *The Team Meeting*
- *Individualized Education Program (IEP) and 504 Plans*
- *Effective Progress*
- *Transition*
- *Review of Important Timelines*
- *Strategies for Success and more!*



About Your Host:

The Norwell SEPAC is a group of parents who meet regularly to discuss the needs of our students and improve special education in Norwell. We provide a space for families to content and education on topics relevant to our community. Contact us at TheNorwellSEPAC@gmail.com

Handouts will be provided to registered attendees on the day of the virtual presentation.
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Date: March 27, 2024

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Registration Link:

<https://fcsn-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpfuqpgT4qH9Lm8JKeTCZ4VYzx8-BTOq7->

**For more information about the educational workshops available from
The Federation for Children with Special Needs,
please visit us at fcsn.org/ptic/workshops or email: workshops@fcsn.org**

DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE



CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR NORWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

33% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH | 4-8PM
1773 WASHINGTON ST, HANOVER, MA, 02339

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **MYZ9JM6**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

The NORWELL SOFTBALL SEASON is here!

Please visit the website at www.norwellgirlssoftball.com and follow the link to our registration page. The season runs from early April through mid-June, with girls second grade and older playing 2 games during the week. Divisions are based on the 2023-24 school grade.

For the upcoming 2024 season we will follow the same format as last year. We will be offering a K-1 Program, a Grade 2-3 (Division 1) coach pitch program and a traditional program for grades 4-8 (Grades 4-5 Division 2 & Grades 6-8 Division 3).

K1 Program: (Kindergarten – 1st Grade) - \$95

- Plays Friday evening – starting after April School Vacation
- All games are played in Norwell
- Tee Ball format

Division 1 (2nd Grade - 3rd Grade) - \$165

- Plays Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8 PM
- Games are played in Norwell, Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, or Hull
- Practice likely to be 1X/week
- Coach Pitch format.

Division 2 (4th Grade - 5th Grade) - \$215

- Plays Monday and Wednesday from 6-8 PM
- Practices are typically held 1-2 day/week and scheduled by coaches
- Games are played in Norwell, Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, or Hull

Division 3 (6th Grade - 8th Grade) - \$215

- Plays Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8 PM
- Practices are typically held 1-2 days/week and scheduled by coaches
- Games are played in Norwell, Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, or Hull

Additionally, a \$50 discount will be automatically applied for the third or fourth child registered in the D1-D3 divisions. Please consider registering early so we can get an early read on how many teams we will have for the year to ensure we have enough coaches in place and get our uniform order in.

Thank you!

Norwell Girls Softball



Babe Ruth League, through its national mission statement, is committed to "skills, mental and physical development, a respect for the rules of the game, and basic ideals of sportsmanship and fair play."

Our goal in establishing a Babe Ruth League program in Norwell is to provide a fun, competitive and instructional baseball experience for players age 13-15 so those players may continue to have the ability to participate in a recreational baseball program until they reach high school.

Registration will be closing soon, please login to your account at norwelllittleleague.com.

If you have any questions about Babe Ruth baseball please email norwellbaseball@gmail.com.

THE NHS PTO

MARCH MADNESS RAFFLE

FOUR amazing prizes - PURCHASE as many tickets as you'd like
OPEN to anyone - PICK which prize you'd like to win

1

LET'S PARTY!

Busy Bee Jumpers - \$500 gift card



2

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

Red Sox Tickets - access to private Royal Rooters Club
Field Box 20, Row D, Seats 1-4 \$800 value



3

SPRING CLEANING TO THE EXTREME!

Troupe Waste

30 yard roll off dumpster delivered - \$900 value



4

SHOPPING SPREE!

Amazon \$1,000 Gift Card



TICKETS: \$10 for 1, \$25 for 3, \$40 for 5!

You can purchase as many entries as you'd like!

ALL are welcome to participate - neighbors, family, friends!

venmo



@NHSPTO

Please put your full name and which prize(s)
you'd like to be entered to win.

Dinner and a Movie

The Sandy Houghton Story: An Inspirational Journey

We will be joined by Special Guest Sandy Houghton via Zoom!

**Wednesday,
March 27th from
6:00-7:30pm.
Registration
Required.**



This 40-minute documentary recounts the life of Sandy Houghton a woman born with severe cerebral palsy, who overcame endless barriers to become a renowned leader in disability advocacy, awareness, and education.

Join us for a pizza dinner and then watch this fascinating documentary followed by a Zoom conversation with Sandy Houghton.

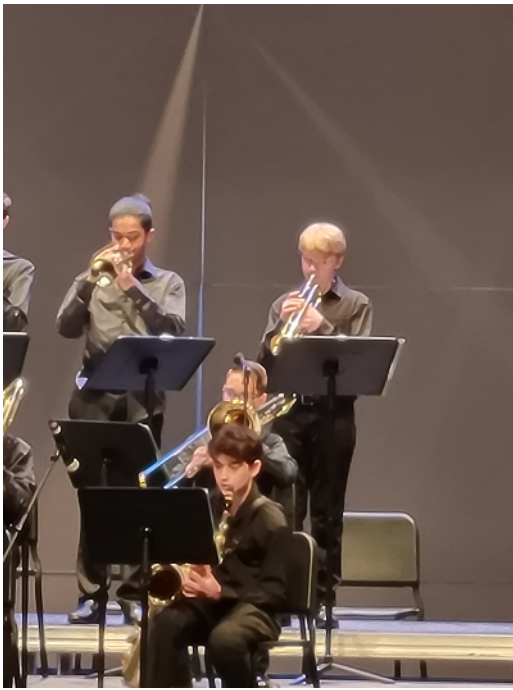
Co-Sponsored by the Norwell Commission on Disabilities Committee.

64 South Street
Norwell, MA 02061
781-659-2015

bit.ly/SandyH-NPL
 **Norwell Public Library**
Beach out — at your library!

On Saturday March 9 seven Norwell Middle School students participated in the Southeastern Massachusetts Junior Honor Bands and Choirs. In the Concert Band: Ari Davis, Thomas Donovan, Andrew Park, and Izzy Robertson. In the Jazz Ensemble: Nathan Hu, and John Hugan, and the Treble Chorus: Sage Dimarzio





PRACTICAL STRATEGIES TO BOOST EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SKILLS

SPONSORED BY: CANTON PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR STUDENT SERVICES, LUCE CAPT,
WACHUSETT SEPAC, SHARON SEPAC, STOUGHTON SEPAC, MILLIS SEPAC, NORTH READING SEPAC,
NORTH MIDDLESEX SEPAC, NEEDHAM SEPAC, WAYLAND SEPAC, DUXBURY SEPAC, WALTHAM SEPAC,
PEABODY SEPAC, NORTHBORO/SOUTHBORO SEPAC, MANSFIELD SEPAC, STONEHAM SEPAC,
NORTHBRIDGE SEPAC, NORWELL SEPAC, EAST HAMPTON SEPAC, SOMERVILLE SEPAC, FOXBORO SEPAC



WHAT ARE EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SKILLS?

THEY ENABLE US TO PAY ATTENTION, TO ORGANIZE, AND PLAN TASK AND MATERIALS,
TO STAY FOCUSED ON THEM AND MANAGE EMOTIONS AND BE FLEXIBLE, AND TO KEEP
TRACK OF WHAT WE ARE DOING

LEARN PRACTICAL STRATEGIES TO HELP YOUR CHILD DEVELOP SKILLS AND BECOME
MORE INDEPENDENT

SPEAKER

Sarah Ward

Sarah is an internationally recognized expert on executive function skills and regularly presents seminars and workshops on the programs and strategies she has developed with her Co-Director Kristen Jacobsen. Sarah has co-authored the 360 Thinking Executive program and co-developed the educational products the Academic Planner and Tracknets, as well as the Time Tracker Program and Get Ready *Do*Done instructional approach. Described as 'revolutionary' and 'groundbreaking' their 360 Thinking Program received the Innovative Promising Practices Award from the National Organization CHADD. She has presented to and consulted with over 1600 public and private schools in the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia, Australia and Africa.



VIRTUAL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY APRIL 23, 2024
6PM

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kNs3z1sfTAGnaQZa3MZ-xQ

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



The student government wants to thank all of you for your support of the first annual GLOW DANCE. We had 240 students attend the event and we could not have done it without the amazing staff that chaperoned. THANK YOU ALL!!!

Thank you to the PTO for the generous donation of 2 black lights and helping us with the setup and clean up.

Thank you to Veronica Carney for being an incredible DJ.

Thank you to all who purchased a GLOW bag. We raised \$375 for the Best Buddies!

We are so happy that so many of you spent your Friday night with us!

NMS Student Government advisors,
Nancy Siffard and Kacey Zych